

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Hungary	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Medical Experiments on Political Prisoners	DATE DISTR.	10 September 1954
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This is UNEVALUATED

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

- On 4 April 1953, eight political prisoners were put under observation in the hospital of Miskolc prison. They came from the Sirok factory and showed signs of mustard gas poisoning.
- Seven other prisoners were hospitalized and put under observation for six days, with orders to give them normal food, to visit them twice a day, and each time to make a detailed report on their condition. On the first day, no special symptoms were observed. On the second day, red spots appeared on the skin. On the fifth day, the skin peeled, and the red spots gradually became more and more purple. On the sixth day, a closed vehicle came to take away the seven men.
- According to statements made by one of the sick persons to a hospital attendant, the seven men had worked in the stone quarries at Recsk. They had been taken from there and brought into a small room without windows. In this room, they were left alone for approximately one hour, and subsequently they were brought to the hospital. Before they were brought into the small room, none of them had been sick.
- The Sirok factory numbers 15 doctors among its personnel, which is something unique in the entire Hungarian industry. The workers in this factory do not work more than four hours per day, and thereafter they must do physical exercises in the open air for two hours. Every two weeks they undergo a medical examination. They are supplied with special clothing and masks.
- The same doctor reports the following facts, to which he was an eye witness: On 11 July 1953, four political prisoners were brought to the hospital of the Miskolc prison and subjected to a medical examination. Their general state of health was found to be satisfactory. The following day they were brought

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back to the prison hospital. Four days later, the oldest of the prisoners (a man 41 years of age) had skin ruptures (b^orszakadás). He was separated from the others and sent to Budapest. On the skin of the other three (between 25 and 32 years of age), the b^orszakadás manifested itself two days later, accompanied by a fever. The following day the ruptures became edematous sores which began at the head, on the neck and on the face and then spread over the entire body. A day later a strong suppuration started, accompanied by fever and general weakness. Two days later, the prisoners received penicillin injections, as follow: The youngest: 2 million units, the second youngest: 3 million units, and the oldest: 3.5 million units. The following day their fever was down, and the prisoners were transported on stretchers in an ambulance which brought them to Budapest.

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